UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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In re: Vitamins Antitrust Litigation

Judge THOMAS F. HOGAN

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL ACTIONS

: Misc. No. 99-197 (TFH)

MDL No. 1285

FILED

AUG 3 1 2000

NANCY MAYER WHITTINGTON, CLEHA U.S. DISTRICT COURT

STIPULATION REGARDING SCHEDULE FOR BRIEFING OBJECTIONS TO THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SPECIAL MASTER RESPECTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO COMPEL AND DEFENDANTS' MOTIONS FOR PROTECTIVE ORDERS

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between counsel for the undersigned, that Defendants that intend to object to the Report and Recommendations of the Special Master Respecting Plaintiffs' Motion to Compel and Defendants' Motions for Protective Orders shall file their Objection, pursuant to Rule 53(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on or before August 28, 2000.

IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that Plaintiffs shall file their Response to Defendants' Objections on or before September 8, 2000, and Defendants shall file their Reply, if any, before September 13, 2000.

#1272

Dated: August 22, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence J. Portnoy
DAVIS POLK & WARDWELL
450 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10017
(212) 450-4000

Counsel for Defendant F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd and, for purposes of this stipulation, on behalf of BASF Aktiengesellschaft, Rhone-Poulenc S.A., Degussa-Huls AG, Eisai Co., Ltd, Lonza AG, Merck KgaA and UCB SA.

Richard Leveridge
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN
& OSHINSKY
2101 L Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
(202) 785-9700

On behalf of all plaintiffs for purposes of this stipulation.

SO ORDERED:

THOMAS F. HOGAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Date Wy 31,2000